

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

APRIL 1, 1858.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. BROWN made the following

REPORT.

[To accompany Bill S. 232.]

The Committee on the District of Columbia, to whom was referred a resolution of the Senate, instructing them "to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the establishment, under the authority and control of the government of the United States, of an efficient police in the city of Washington," have carefully considered the subject and report:

That the police of the city consists of twenty-seven day police officers, and one chief; and of an auxiliary guard of thirty men, and one captain, who is to act as high policeman. The day police is appointed by the mayor, with the consent of the city councils, and is paid out of the city treasury; the cost being \$18,000 per annum. The auxiliary guard is appointed by the mayor, under an act of Congress, and is paid out of the national treasury; the cost being \$19,000 per annum, and \$400 for contingencies.

The police force is both feeble and inefficient. Riot and bloodshed are of daily occurrence. Innocent and unoffending persons are shot, stabbed, and otherwise shamefully maltreated, and not unfrequently the offender is not even arrested. It is hardly necessary to add, that such acts are a disgrace to civilized society, and if not put down must result in disastrous consequences to society, and bring a lasting reproach upon this federal city.

It is the duty of the local authorities to keep order; but they either cannot or will not do it. The obligation is thus thrown upon Congress to take the matter in hand. Congress cannot throw off the responsibility of taking care of the public property, and of defending the persons and property of ministers accredited to this government by foreign powers; and senators and representatives may very well assume that when riot, bloodshed, burglary, and arson, are of almost nightly occurrence, they and their families are not free from danger.

The feebleness of the police is shown by a single glance at its numbers. Fifty-seven men cannot, when the spirit of disorder is rife as it now is, keep order in a city like Washington. The city has in

round numbers a population of 60,000 souls; but it covers an area larger than Baltimore, with a population of 260,000. Baltimore has a police force of four hundred, and Washington has only fifty-seven.

The inefficiency of the police grows out of a number of causes. First and foremost is its feebleness; next, the want of proper responsibility. A police appointed by one power, and paid by another, is very likely to be inefficient. But that which, perhaps, imparts its greatest inefficiency is the fact that it is composed, to a great degree, of active political partizans; and being appointed by the local authorities alone, its efficiency in carrying elections is looked to with as much, or more anxiety, than its efficiency in keeping down disorder.

Without elaborating the subject, your committee have felt justified, from the state of facts now existing, in assuming that the obligation is upon the government to provide a more efficient police for the city of Washington, and therefore report a bill.

SENATE COMMITTEE D. C. ROOM, *March 3, 1858.*

DEAR SIR: The following resolution has been referred, by order of the Senate, to the Committee on the District of Columbia:

Resolved, That the Committee on the District of Columbia be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the establishment, under the authority and control of the government of the United States, of an efficient police in the city of Washington.

To enable the committee to act intelligibly, I am instructed to address to you the following inquiries:

First. What is the present police force in the city of Washington, and by whom is it appointed?

Second. What is the annual cost of the police, and by whom is it paid?

Third. What suggestions, if any, have you to make looking to an increased efficiency in the police?

Fourth. Has the police been inefficient? and if so, state the reasons why, and suggest a remedy.

I am further directed to call upon you for a copy of your police rules or regulations, to be laid before the committee, and, if they think it proper, to be submitted by them to the Senate.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

MAYOR'S OFFICE,
Washington, March 17, 1858.

SIR: In reply to the several questions submitted to me in a communication received from the committee over which you preside, to the first I respectfully answer, that the police of the city of Washington now consists of twenty-seven day police officers and one chief of

police; of thirty members of an auxiliary guard and one captain thereof, who act as night policemen, and are liable to do day duty whenever any emergency may occur; that during the last year it has been found necessary to appoint, temporarily, twenty-five night police officers in aid of the guard, and that the day police has been permanently increased to nearly double its previous number; that all the police are appointed by the mayor—those of the day police by and with the advice and consent of the board of aldermen.

The annual cost of the day police is eighteen thousand three hundred and seventy dollars, and some contingencies, which expense is paid by the city of Washington. The corporation has already paid during the current year three thousand dollars for special police service.

The auxiliary guard are paid by the government of the United States, each receiving six hundred dollars per annum, and the captain one thousand dollars; making in all nineteen thousand dollars, and four hundred dollars for contingencies.

I suggest that the night police (auxiliary guard) is much too small. The greatest length of the city on an east and west line is 4.572 miles, and on a north and south line is 3.779 miles. It has many crooked and narrow alleys in it, which serve as hiding and lurking places for evil-disposed and disorderly persons. None of these alleys are lighted at night, and but few of the streets and avenues. It would, therefore, take at least one hundred men to effectually watch the city at night and to meet any emergency that is likely to occur, and they ought to have one captain and not less than four lieutenants. The day police, for the present, is large enough.

The police is not inefficient; but, on the contrary, is, and has been, as efficient as it is possible for so small a body of men to be. They have made a very large number of arrests, many of them under circumstances of great danger. They are all strong, able-bodied men of tried courage, and a large proportion of them have received painful, and in some instances, dangerous wounds in the discharge of their duty, and have captured an almost incredible number of fire-arms and other offensive weapons; the return this day alone being four six-shooting revolvers of various patents, one single barrel pistol, besides other more silent but hardly less deadly weapons.

There is a spirit of lawlessness prevailing the whole land. Deeds of violence and bloodshed are perpetrated even in villages and hamlets, and all the cities of the country are suffering to a greater extent than ever heretofore from the prevalence of this spirit in their midst.

The county constables, who are appointed by the circuit court, hold their office for an indefinite term, and are held to no responsibility for any omissions to enforce law or punish its violations; and as a recent law of Congress takes from them all fees and emoluments for services rendered in this behalf, they generally avoid them; I therefore suggest that the tenure of their office be well defined by law, that the term be limited, and that they be made responsible to the marshal of the United States for the District of Columbia, and required to obey his orders and those of his deputies, in the suppression of riots and the maintenance of the public peace; and also that some method of com-

pensating them may be adopted, either by returning to the old fee system, or such other as Congress in its wisdom may devise.

The District of Columbia has now to rely on the city police for the discharge of duties which, in the States, belong to the sheriff of the county or the officer representing him—a condition of things which ought not to exist, and which will be, at least, partially remedied by carrying out the above suggestions in relation to the marshal and the county constables.

Very respectfully,

W. B. MAGRUDER, *Mayor*.

Hon. A. G. BROWN,

Chairman of the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE,
Washington, March 5, 1858.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a communication, by order of the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia, making certain inquiries in relation to the police organization of this city, and briefly reply:

In answer to your first inquiry: "What is the present police force in the city of Washington, and by whom is it appointed?" I respectfully reply:

The present force of the police of this city consists of twenty-seven persons, with a chief or captain of police, the members of which are nominated by the mayor to the board of aldermen for confirmation, in the same manner as all the other officers of the corporation. Previous to the 7th of January last. (1858,) the entire police force of the city numbered seventeen, at which date the two boards of the city council passed an act "to organize a police system for the city of Washington, and to reduce the several acts in relation thereto into one," which act increased the force from sixteen to the present number—twenty-seven persons.

The second inquiry: "What is the annual cost of the police, and by whom is it paid?" is answered:

Twenty-seven men, at \$630 per annum each.....	\$17,010 00
Pay of chief.....	1,000 00
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Which salaries are paid monthly by the corporation.

In addition to the corporation police, there are thirty-one persons attached to the night-guard; which organization, by law, are auxiliary to the police established by the corporation. Their head is called "Captain Auxiliary Guard." They are paid by the government. The contingent expenses of the several guard-houses are defrayed by the corporation. Their duties are confined exclusively to night service in patrolling the city—at the present time, from 8 p. m. until morning.

There are, in addition to the above, a number of officers called "*county constables*," who are entirely inefficient, for the reason that they never act except there is an almost certain prospect of pecuniary reward for their services, and are, therefore, entirely useless.

The suggestions I have to offer, looking to an increased efficiency of the police, are, hurriedly :

1st. A greatly augmented force.

2d. A marshal or head of police, with an adequate number of captains or lieutenants of police, who shall be assigned to duty, generally, in a particular locality or district; who shall be directly responsible for the proper discharge of the duties of the men apportioned to the district in which such captains, &c., respectively shall be assigned.

3d. A sufficient number of station-houses for the accommodation of the men, which will serve as headquarters in the several districts, at which a sufficient force will always be found, at all hours of the day or night, for the protection of public and private property, &c., &c.

4th. Stringent rules for the government of the body, without which any police organization must necessarily be inefficient.

I have hastily thrown together the above suggestions as a kind of basis by which to form a starting point, and upon which to enlarge.

I enclose "*Rules and Regulations for Government of Auxiliary Guard*," and also a copy of *Police Act*.

Very respectfully, &c.,

F. A. KLOPPER,
Chief of Police.

Hon. A. G. BROWN,
Chairman, &c., &c., U. S. Senate.

The first of the three main periods of the history of the
country is the period of the early settlement of the
country. This period is characterized by the fact that the
country was settled by a small number of people who
were seeking a new home for themselves and their families.

The second of the three main periods of the history of the
country is the period of the middle settlement of the
country. This period is characterized by the fact that the
country was settled by a larger number of people who
were seeking a new home for themselves and their families.

The third of the three main periods of the history of the
country is the period of the late settlement of the
country. This period is characterized by the fact that the
country was settled by a still larger number of people who
were seeking a new home for themselves and their families.

The fourth of the three main periods of the history of the
country is the period of the modern settlement of the
country. This period is characterized by the fact that the
country was settled by a still larger number of people who
were seeking a new home for themselves and their families.

THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTRY

The history of the country is a story of the growth and development of a nation.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

June 4, 1865 - Session of the Senate

Mr. Sumner made the following

REPORT

Transmitted to the Senate

The Committee on Foreign Land Claims, to whom was referred a bill for the relief of N. C. Winters of Louisiana, H. R. No. 217, have had the same under consideration and submit the following report:

That the statement of facts in the report of the Hon. Secretary of Foreign Land Claims upon the memorial of N. C. Winters have been found, upon investigation, to be entirely correct, and they were entirely satisfied in the opinion expressed in the above named report that no claim here put could be presented for the intervention of Congress, accordingly recommended the passage by the Senate of the act entitled "An act for the relief of N. C. Winters of Louisiana."

